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County Line

A large crowd attended the church picnic at Jones' Lake Saturday. Plenty of good food and a good time was had by all.

Mr. Warren Jones & daughter of Kentucky, Mrs. Iris Carter and Hilda Jones of Chesterfield and Mrs. Shirley Reynolds of Prospect were recent visitors of friends and relatives in the community.

Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Mann attended services Sunday near Charlottesville.

Mrs. Jimmy Howard and children and Keith, Tony and Mike Mann were dinner guests of Mr. & Mrs. Elliott Nash and Dawn Sunday.

Mr. & Mrs. Ray Layne and daughter visited Mr. & Mrs. Richard Nash Sat. evening.

Mrs. Sue Jennings and son of Lynchburg spent Sat. with Mr. & Mrs. Shelby Tucker.

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Tucker and family visited Mr. & Mrs. Harmow Jennings of Lynchburg Sunday.

Mrs. Richard Nash visited Miss Debra Seay last week. Debra returned from the hospital where she had her tonsils removed.

Mrs. Richard Nash, Genea and Susian Goggin attended a birthday party for little Windy Nash daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Winfred Nash at Thomas Terrace Sunday afternoon. Windy celebrated her first birthday.

We welcome a new family to our community. The sister of Mrs. Frank Lively.

Sorry to hear Rev. W. H. Elder has been sick. Hope he's much better.

Oakville

Miss Kathy Marshall attended the Lexington Basketball camp for Girls held at Washington and Lee University. July 21-26.

Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Marshall, Doug and Kathy, Mr. & Mrs. W. Clarke Moore, Mr. & Mrs. Foster Catlette and Mark, Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Martin and three children were dinner guests of Mr. & Mrs. Charles Rosson and family on Sunday. The Rosson's live in Trinillion, Va.

The Young Hearts Club met last Wednesday the 24th at Memorial Church with a group from Lynchburg as our guest. We had a nice program which we all enjoyed very much. Then a wonderful luncheon! We plan to take a trip next month.

Our sympathy is extended to the Garrett and Rogers families.

SOCIAL NOTES

Those visiting in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Williamson Wooten on Sunday were Mrs. Ola Guthrie and Mrs. Kay Stacy of Aberdeen, Maryland, Lewis Wooten and Mrs. Grace Cunningham of Appomattox and Mr. & Mrs. Willard Johnson and family of Spout Spring.

* * *

Mr. Keith Belcher of Roanoke spent Friday night in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Chuck May of Brookneal. Sunday guests in the same home were Mr. & Mrs. Charles Richardson and Alice Stanley of Appomattox, Mrs. Joan May and Mrs. Janice Marston and children of Red House and Mr. & Mrs. Harry Belcher of Roanoke, Mr. Ralph May, Pam and Lisa of Brookneal.

* * *

Mr. & Mrs. Harry Belcher of Roanoke and Mr. & Mrs. Charles Richardson visited Mr. Wesley Stanley and Alice Sunday.

* * *

Mrs. Mark Hipps and children and Mrs. Alese Cumby of Pamplin visited Mr. & Mrs. Chuck May during the week.

Chestnut Grove

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Morris and Cindy of Highland, California arrived Sunday to spend some time with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Morris. Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur St. John of Trenton, Florida, visited in the same home Monday.

Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Russell L. Harris were Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Harris of Green Bay, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Tompson of Farmville, Mrs. Kline Hill and boys of Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Lunsford of Crewe were Saturday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Senger.

Bob Bryan attended the Virginia Pork Industry Federation meeting at Emporia Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bryan attended the Virginia Market Hog and Trade Show held at Emporia Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Beasley of Roanoke were weekend visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Kemper Beasley and Mr. and Mrs. Kelly Branch at Buckingham.

Mrs. Kline Hill and boys of Richmond were Sunday and Monday overnight guests of Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Harris

Mr. and Mrs. George Dunkum of Richmond were visitors last week of Mrs. Ruth Beasley.

Edward T. Cook, Randy and Kenneth were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Cook.

Mr. and Mrs. Juan Dunkum of Richmond were Wednesday supper guests of Mrs. Ruth Beasley.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Senger of Rustburg were week-end guests in the same home.

YOU'RE WHISTLING IN THE DARK...
IF YOU THINK THAT HEART ATTACK AND STROKE HIT ONLY THE OTHER FELLOW'S FAMILY.
Help your Heart... Help your Heart Fund

The Pastor Speaks

"And he answered him to never a word" . . . Matt. 27:14.

He had never been slow of speech when He could bless the sons of men, but He would not say a single word for Himself. "Never man spoke like this Man," and never man was silent like Him. Was this singular silence the index of His perfect self-sacrifice? Did it show that He would not utter a word to stay the slaughter of His sacred person, which He had dedicated as an offering for us? Had He so entirely surrendered Himself that He would not interfere in His own behalf, even in the slightest degree, but be bound and slain an unstruggling uncomplaining victim? Was this silence a type of the defenselessness of sin? Nothing can be said in excuse of human guilt; and therefore, He who bore its whole weight stood speechless before His judge. Is not patient silence the best reply to a gainsaying world? Calm endurance answers some questions infinitely more conclusively than the most eloquence. The anvil breaks a host of hammers by quietly bearing their blows.

Did not the silent Lamb of God furnish us with a grand example of wisdom? Where every word was occasion for new blasphemy, it was the line of duty to afford no fuel for the flame of sin. The false, the unworthy and mean, will before long overthrow and confute themselves, and therefore the true can afford to be quiet, and finds silence to be its wisdom. Evidently our Lord, by His silence, furnished a remarkable fulfillment of prophecy. A long defense of Himself would have been contrary to Isaiah's prediction. "He is led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He opens not His mouth." By His quiet He conclusively proved Himself to be the Lamb of God. As such we salute Him today. Be with us, Jesus, and in the silence of our heart, let us hear the voice of Your Love.

Earnie W. Lucas: Pastor
Bible Baptist Church
Appomattox, Va.

The Sunday School Lesson

Herbert C. Bradshaw
P. O. Box 1833
Durham, N. C. 27702

Comment on the International Sunday School lesson for Sunday, August 4, 1974.

Topic: A Threatened Church
Scripture: Colossians 1: 1-14; 2: 1-7; 4: 7-18.

As therefore you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so live in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. Colossians 2: 6-7.

Paul had not been to Colossae when he wrote the letter to the Christians there. However, he knew some of the members of the church there, Epaphras, the pastor and possibly the founder of the Colossian Church, and Philemon, in whose home the church apparently met. Philemon was one of Paul's converts, but he had heard him and professed faith at some other place which Paul visited, perhaps Ephesus, 100 miles west of Colossae.

The letter was written on the basis of information brought to Paul by Epaphras. As a faithful minister of Jesus Christ, Epaphras was concerned about heretical teachings, which may be described as pre-Gnosticism, which were making some headway in his church. Two statements by Paul, blending warning and exhortation, indicate the nature of the heresy:

"See to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe and not according to Christ." (Colossians 2:8)

"Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a sabbath. These are only a shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ. Let no one disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, taking his stand on visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, and not holding fast to the Head, from which the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God." (Colossians 2: 16-19.

Both pagan and Jewish comcepts flavor the heretical ideas which concerned Epaphras and Paul. As the forerunner of gnosticism, they presage the heresies which were to afflict the Christian Church in the second century of its existence. Paul put his finger on the key to the problem in his reference to those "puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind." The basis of the heresy at Colossae, as it was of Gnosticism in its various expressions, was in the immagination and invention of the human mind.

Christianity is a religion the truth of which man does not discover through his mental processes, but through revelation. Paul's statement, "The world did not know God through wisdom," is a basic truth. The divine-human encounter is initiated by God.

In the Colossian heresy there was the teaching that man comes to God through "the elemental spirits of the universe"-- the thrones, dominions, principalities, authorities of Colossians 1:16. Paul counter by pointing out that all these were created through and for Christ, "the first-born of all creation." There were those who would impose rituals and rules-- "questions of food and drink or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a sabbath" which Paul saw as unnecessary in the freedom Christ gives and in the spiritual worship which is the only worship acceptable to Him.

To combat teachings which would put priorities elsewhere, Paul stresses in the Letter to the Colossians the preeminence of Christ. He commends their "faith in Christ Jesus and . . . the love which you have for all the saints" (a term Paul uses to refer to believers in its connotation of persons set apart). He exhorts them to find in the gospel, "as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant"-- another endorsement in the letter of this minister and his teaching-- "the word of the truth."

Because it is a common temptation to Christians to give priority to the reasoning, the invention, and the imagination of the mind over divine revelation as the basis of religious knowledge, the Letter to the Colossians has practical value both in warning and in counsel. The church in every age is threatened when the human mind is given precedence over revelation as the source of knowledge of God and of His relationship to humanity, as was the church at Colossae.

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Hollywood

We were very sorry to hear W. H. Elder was real sick Sunday but we were happy to have him with us at church today. He brought us a wonderful message.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth ... and girls spent the weekend in Newport News ... their parents.

We were very sorry to hear of the illness of Mr. Howard ... but we are glad he is ... and improving.

We were very sorry to hear George Jennings got his ... hurt very bad last week. He is in the Medical College ... in Richmond. We wish ... a very speedy recovery.

... William Gaines of Appomattox and daughter Miss ... Gaines of Detroit, Michigan visited Mr. and Mrs. L. H. ... Sunday afternoon.

We were very sorry to hear of the deaths last week of Mr. ... Garrett, Mr. James ... Mr. Rogers of Oakville ... Mr. William Walers daughter of Africa. We extended our sympathy to each of their loved ones.

... and Mrs. Grover Smith of Maryland and Mrs. C. R. ... spent the night in ...sboro, Virginia, Wednesday. While there they ... Rev. and Mrs. Joseph ... and family at Lynhurst, ...

... and Mrs. Bennett Gilliam of Farmville spent a few days ... week with Mrs. W. T. ...ton.

... Janie Maxwell left last ... to go in training in the ... We will miss Janie but ... wish her much success.

... Weekend guest of Mrs. C. R. ... and Mr. and Mrs. ... Smith were Mr. Smith's ... Mrs. G. C. Smith Sr. ... daughter, Ruth Smith of ...son, W. Va. and Mrs. ... Hubbard of Huntington, ...

... and Mrs. Thomas Wood... and Lisa and Mrs. Mary ... were dinner guest ... of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. ...field and family.

... and Mrs. Bill Watson and ... spent Sunday at ... Bridge, Virginia.

... Emma Lemon was a ... guest Sunday of Mrs. C. ... Banton. Mrs. M. L. ...ton visited Mrs. Banton ... afternoon. Mrs. Joe Goin ... in this home Saturday ...

...ing Mrs. Mary Bagby ... were Mr. and Mrs. ... Maxwell, Mrs. Raymond ...lin, Mrs. Kenneth Deaner, ... W. T. Covington, Mrs. ... Covington, Mr. and Mrs. ... Watson, Mr. and Mrs. ... Woodall, and Lisa, ... and Julia Wingfield ... Delouris Ann Deaner.

... are sorry Mrs. L. H. ... is on the sick list but ... hope she may soon be well ...

... Market"
... At Vera
... August 10

... group of residents in Vera ... planning a "first" for this ... "Flea Market" sale to be ... at Vera School on ... day, August 10th. ... people interested may bring ... to be sold and display ... priced article on that day. ... invite people looking for a ... to come out and see ... will be offered for sale. ... there will be FREE pony ... and balloons for the ... children. Refreshments will be ... available. ... further information, ... Leon Bryant, Route 3, ... Appomattox.

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